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REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-4880  
27 FEBRUARY 1968  
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MILITARY ACTIVITY  
A SHAU VALLEY, SOUTH VIETNAM  
1611N 10718E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD REVEALS INCREASED COMMUNIST MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE A SHAU VALLEY, SOUTH VIETNAM, WHICH INCLUDES A POSSIBLE HELICOPTER LANDING PAD OR RUNWAY RECONSTRUCTION AT A LUOI AIRSTRIIP, A POSSIBLE DROP ZONE AT A SHAU AIRSTRIIP, AND ROAD AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LINE CONSTRUCTION.

2. LOCATION:

THIS MILITARY ACTIVITY IS OBSERVED IN THE A SHAU VALLEY OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

3. BACKGROUND:

IN MARCH 1966, THE COMMUNIST FORCES OVERRAN AND TOOK CONTROL OF THE A SHAU VALLEY, INCLUDING THREE SPECIAL FORCES STRONGPOINTS AND ASSOCIATED AIRSTRIIPS, A SHAU [REDACTED] A LUOI [REDACTED] AND TA BAT [REDACTED] THE THREE AIRSTRIIPS WERE HEAVILY DAMAGED BY U.S. AIRSTRIKES AND UNTIL 23 JANUARY 1968 NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY EXCEPT ROAD CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, AND REHABILITATION WAS NOTED.

RECENT ACTIVITY ASSOCIATED WITH TWO OF THE AIRSTRIIPS SUGGESTS THAT PREPARATION MAY BE UNDERWAY TO PROVIDE FOR AN AIR DROP/AIR LANDING CAPABILITY. THIS ACTIVITY MAY BE SIMILAR TO THAT NOTED JUST AFTER THE 1967 TET TRUCE PERIOD AT THE DIEN BIEN PHU AIRSTRIIP IN NORTH VIETNAM.

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NGA review(s) completed.

GROUP 1  
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downgrading and declassification

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4. MISSION READOUT:

PHOTOGRAPHY [REDACTED]

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REVEALS A NEWLY CLEARED AREA APPROXIMATELY 90 FT SQUARE AT THE NORTHWEST END OF THE 1,375 FT RUNWAY AT A LUOI. THIS CLEARING COULD POSSIBLY BE USED AS A HELICOPTER LANDING PAD OR COULD REPRESENT INITIAL EFFORTS TO RECONSTRUCT THIS SMALLER RUNWAY. VEHICLE TRACKS EXTEND INTO THE AREA FROM SOUTH VIETNAM ROUTE 548, FOLLOWING THE ALIGNMENT OF THE LONGER UNSERVICEABLE RUNWAY. A PROBABLE SMALL SUPPORT BUILDING (NOT SHOWN ON GRAPHIC) IS LOCATED 120 FT SOUTHEAST OF THE CLEARED AREA.

ROUTE 548 IS SERVICEABLE TO THE A SHAU AIRSTRIP, LOCATED 9 NM SOUTHEAST OF A LUOI AIRSTRIP, AND CONTINUES ACROSS THE BORDER INTO LAOS. TRACK ACTIVITY EXTENDS WEST FROM ROUTE 548 AT THE A SHAU AIRSTRIP TO A POSSIBLE DROP ZONE IN A CLEARING BETWEEN THE OLD ABANDONED U.S. SPECIAL FORCES CAMP AND THE MAIN RUNWAY AT 160712N 1072000E. SCATTERED UNIDENTIFIED MATERIAL IS NOTED IN THE VICINITY OF THE CLEARING.

FIVE AAA SITES, FOUR OF WHICH ARE OCCUPIED, ARE DISPERSED ALONG ROUTE 548 NORTHWEST OF A LUOI AIRSTRIP. THESE POSITIONS ARE ROAD SERVED AND ARE LARGER THAN THOSE NORMALLY SEEN IN SOUTH VIETNAM.

A NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPEN-WIRE TRACE IS OBSERVED UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN SOUTH VIETNAM FROM 0.5 NM EAST OF THE LAOS/SOUTH VIETNAM BORDER EXTENDING GENERALLY SOUTHEAST AND TERMINATING 2.5 NM WEST OF A LUOI AIRSTRIP. THIS TRACE WILL SERVE THE A SHAU VALLEY AND IS PROBABLY A BRANCH

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OF THE LINE GENERALLY PARALLELING ROUTE 922.

5. REMARKS:

NEWLY IDENTIFIED ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND A NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS TRACE,  
IN THIS GENERAL AREA, WERE IDENTIFIED ON PHOTOGRAPHY

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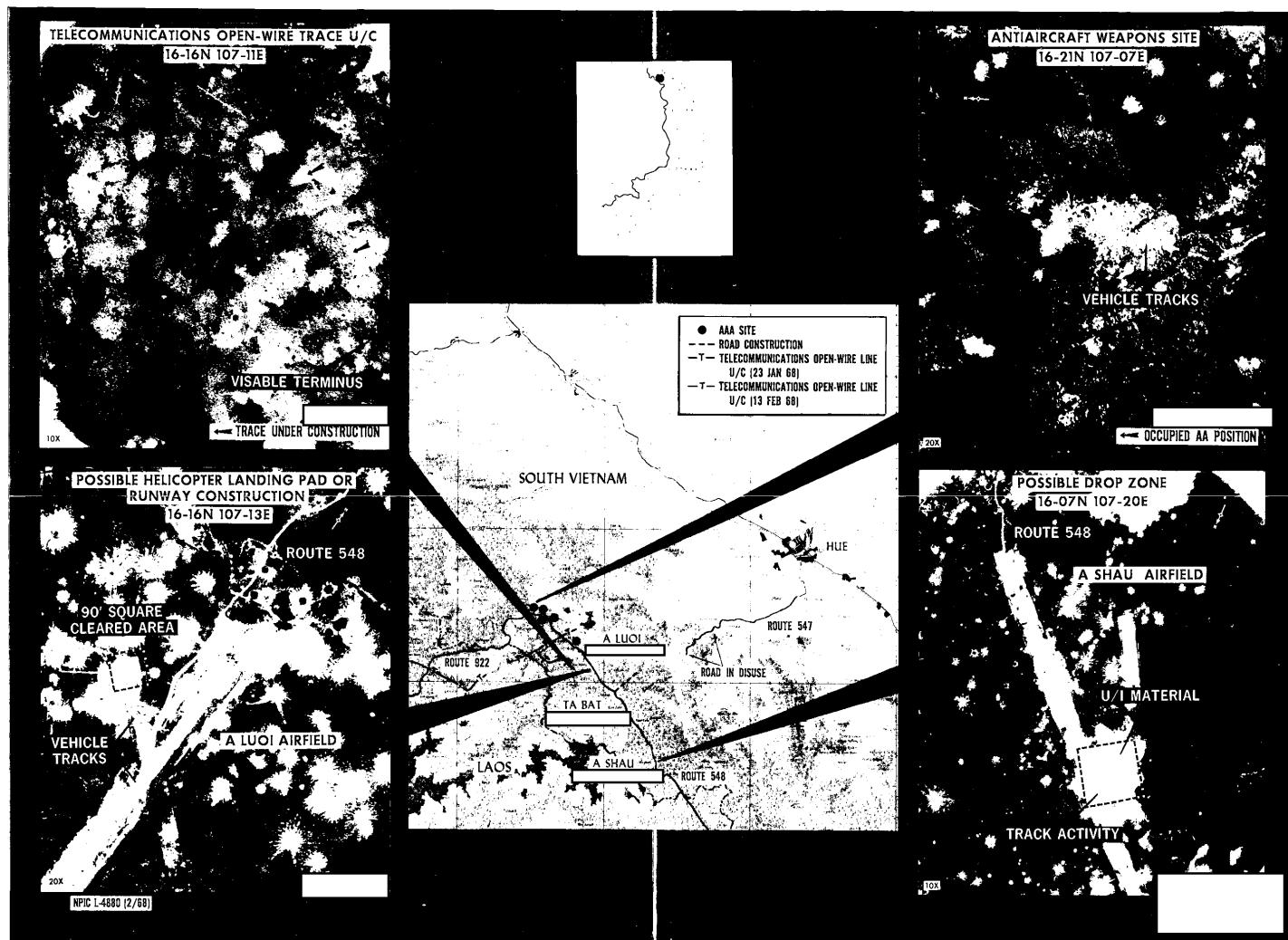
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MILITARY ACTIVITY

### A SHAU VALLEY, SOUTH VIETNAM



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